

## Frills of Fashion.

A new fad of American Girls.

'Will you walk with me tomorrow if it rains?' That is what the smart girls at the American summer resorts ask each other this season when they meet at the casinos and on the golf links. The modern girl believes she can prove that round rosy cheeks and a countenance without a wrinkle will unto the fifth and sixth decade of her age be the property of whoever takes her face bath direct from the clouds.

In consequence of this faith every smart resort and country house turns out a troop of young women every rainy day. Over in fashionable Bernardsville, up along the Hudson at Rhinebeck and in the Naragansett cottage settlement, the rainy daisies can be seen when the downpour comes trooping over the hills and fields with countenances held consciously skywards. The rule is that you must take the cold shower directly on your face and let the moisture dry off as it does from the flower petals, partly by absorption and partly by evaporation, and if you have either a dry or greasy skin there is no tonic so sure to bring a velvet quality to the surface as this. Maybe it does and maybe it doesn't, but the point beyond dispute or contradiction is that the rain walkers derive infinite pleasure and satisfaction and solid physical benefit from the quaint exercise.

The cool moist air is all for their good, and under their gossamer coats they wear short skirted flannel suits such as are used in sea bathing, with these golf shoes and woollen hose and all protection is given their heads by means of oiled silk caps upon which gay silk handkerchiefs are tied. The heavier the downpour is the better they like it, and with wet rosy faces they tramp to some point of interest, enjoy light refreshment, tramp home again, take naps and appear in especially fine condition of health and spirits as a result, they say of washing their faces as the flowers do.

### Protection for Polished Tables.

Housekeepers find that highly polished library and parlor tables need protection almost as much as does the dining-room board. One New York woman accomplishes this by the use of mats of stamped leather. These mats are made in various sizes and are faced on the under side with canton flannel of a color to harmonize with the leather. They are convenient for use wherever they are needed to protect the polish of handsome tables from detachment by lamps and other bric-a-brac. The problem of the protection of the dining table from the heat of hot plates and dishes has been solved by a perfect heat-proof fabric of asbestos and canton flannel. The material is manufactured in widths which permit the widest table to be covered, and it is also cut up into oblongs, squares and small circles to slip under doilies, tray and centre cloths. One ingenious housekeeper had already partially found a way out of the same dilemma. For use under plate and dish doilies for luncheon and breakfast she bought the round asbestos mats sold at hardware stores for service on the range. Their tin rims, which would have scratched the table, were easily pried off, leaving a comparatively soft surface. These are, however, much stiffer and also less smooth at their best than the fabric already referred to.

### A Watering Place Dinner Gown.

The dinner gown for al fresco affairs, a gown which will serve as the correct toilette for the casino of an evening at the watering place, consists of a long sleeved, demi-decollete gown, and a broad, low hat wreathed with plumes or flowers. How becoming these hats are with their undulating brims and drooping garlands! The décolletage, whether round, square or V-shaped, is hardly a rival to the robe that veils the whole neck and shoulders and arms with but the sheerest, flattest of gauze coverings, which, with its pretence of being high-necked and long-sleeved to a puritanic extreme, the sleeves continuing to the knuckles, the choker high into the hair and about the ears and chin, is in reality far in advance of the frankly low-cut gown in coolness,' says a woman writer from Paris. With these long sleeves no gloves are worn, and, indeed, none are desirable on warm evenings with this dainty veiling over the arms, ending in a flaring wired cuff of gauze, and two or three rings on the slender fingers below. With heavier unlined sleeves of guipure, the gloves are of lace kid, in the color of the lace, string color, ecru, butter, ivory, pure milky white or beige, as the case may be.

### As Described a Hundred Years Ago.

The language of the fashion plate and the woman's paper is sufficiently perplex-

ing to men, even in these days of emancipated and simplified womanhood, but according to an extract from a fashion journal of 1787, which is now going the rounds in Paris, the jargon of a century ago was even more bewildering. This is how the paper described the dress of a certain Mlle D— at the opera: She appeared in a dress of 'stiffed sighs,' ornamented with 'superfluous regrets,' the bodice cut in a 'perfect candor' point, and trimmed with 'indecorous complaints.' Her headress of 'assured corquest,' and 'down cast eye' ribbons, and her collar was 'beggar on-horseback' color. No doubt all these marvelous terms conveyed some meaning to the fashionable women of the days when French society danced on the edge of the volcano of 1789, but to their descendants of 100 years later they have absolutely no meaning.

### Is his Wife an Employee.

Some discussion having taken place in Boston on the question whether wives are employees or not a bright woman cites a case in point and asks for some persons opinion. She knows of a case where a man married his managing housekeeper after she had held the position in his home nearly a year. The lady was refined and well-educated, having a teaching knowledge of piano and violin, and capable of filling a higher position if she had more self confidence. However, she had a good home, moderate salary, and all the help she required, besides one housemaid. She was fully persuaded to accept the home as her own, by marrying the man, although he was much older and had a family of grown and growing up children, he promising her companionship, kind treatment etc. etc. Little by little all her privileges as wife and housekeeper were taken from her, all her authority in common household matters, and her salary, which had been promised as a wife's allowance to be continued, cut down by degrees, till it was stopped entirely. She was not allowed to order common necessities in her husband's stores, without a written order (and she was to proud to do that, take a written order, so she went without) and even the house which her husband owned advertised over her head to let furnished, while she had spent part of her money in furnishing it (money not earned in the family, but part of a legacy). She is shut off from all privileges as a wife, even as a housekeeper, and treated much worse than any servant would endure to be treated. Her duties as wife and housekeeper are taken from her, and then she was accused of not earning anything. She is a woman who makes the best of what she can't help—uses her will power and philosophy and faith to hold herself up, and has managed so far to 'keep up appearances.' She has used her own money freely about the house to make it homelike, although her husband is not a poor man, and is a very indulgent father. Now, if that woman is ignored as wife, what is she? Is she merely an employee, and, if so, should she not be paid at least as such.

### Passing of the Tall Hat.

The Prince of Wales leads the fashion in mens wear in England, and indeed the world over and his objection to the tall hat is noted by the London Chronicle which says that he came down one year as a country gentleman to visit a country meeting. There were tall hats and freck coats, and something of the male costume of Frith's 'Derby day' on the lawns, under the elms, and in the paddock and the grand stand. He was the exception. Next year the despotism was less general. A rule came to be formulated and followed which was, after all, but a compromise. It was this. Country costume on the three days of the Goodwood week, grand tenue on the Thursday, and the other reason given was that the princess always came to Goodwood on the cup day. This week has been this irritating exception swept away. On Thursday the prince wore a grey bowler hat with a black band, the Duke of Cambridge a low brown pot hat, the Duke of York a low black one, Prince Soltykoff a white straw Homburg, the Duke of Richmond a tall black silk, the Earl of Mar an ordinary straw boater. The varieties are given in order to show that the liberation is complete.

### Troubles of a Boston Bride.

'I about live in the intelligence office,' moaned the last year's bride. 'I pay a fee, try two or three hopeless cases, get put off for a week with the promise of something better, and finally am reduced to keeping any kind of a girl for a month or two. Then my courage revives, or Paul won't put up with her any longer, or she won't put up with us. Then I pay another fee and start all over again. Paul says he's sick of it.'

'Did you ever try the state employment bureau?' I've thought of that,' said the woman who reads the papers.

'Paul says the demand exceeds the sup-

ply of domestic servants there, just as it does everywhere else.'

'I am trying a Chinaman cook a friend engaged for me in San Francisco,' said the hostess. 'It's the first time I've had a cook who really could cook, and my kitchen is as tidy as my parlor. It costs more of course—'

'Costs more?' demanded a previous speaker. 'Then what does this mean? It is from an editorial: "Are the people of this city ready to encourage an incursion of "clean white Chinamen" to cut down wages and to displace white laborers?"'

'It doesn't mean anything at all. Chinamen can't displace white labor that isn't there, and they can't cut down wages when they ask 50 to 75 per cent more than a woman cook.'

'I am having my periodical upheaval,' said the previous speaker. 'I am promised a splendid girl in October if I can get along till then. So Henry has his dinners at a restaurant downtown in the middle of the day, and I give him a light breakfast and a heavy tea, and I've made special rates with the laundry. But October looks a big way off.'

There's always the state employment bureau,' reiterated she who had spoken before. But no one took up that suggestion with enthusiasm.

### Some Notes of Fashion.

Stiff feathers are very fashionable, not worn upright, but bent and curved gracefully, to which a drooping movement is imparted. They are not left in their original state, but are artistically painted in soft shades of red and greenish gold. For this kind of embellishment black feathers are generally chosen, and the indiscriminate assembling of the wings of one kind of bird with the tail of another, completed by the head of a third—which was fashionable two seasons past—is no longer seen.

A favorite foundation for wearing under a lace robe gown is green silk in which case a green tulle turban is worn and a green chiffon parasol carried.

Two great novelties are plushes in light colors, with black patterns interwoven and plush angora, a perfect imitation of the fur. These latter goods, however, seem more suitable for millinery purposes or for trimmings.

Paris has for the moment affected a blue that has the appearance of being washed out and very cool looking, though it has a gray tinge. It is very pretty in cotton and other washing dresses trimmed with lace and chiffon. Guipure looks well on this shade of silk with chiffon ruchings placed just at the hem, where all the trimmings seem now concentrated, the rest sheath-like. Many of the bodices are trimmed with the same lace to simulate a bolero, the upper part covered with a chemisette of pleated chiffon. Such dresses nearly always have black velvet somewhere; bands across the front sometimes appear to fasten the skirt, others again have a wide black velvet band from the centre of a high stock, secured in front by a buckle. Black and white has many advantages; it is cool and fresh looking either in lace or chiffon. Black and white braid is employed as trimming, and much of the white lace used is interthreaded with black velvet. Many white washing dresses are dotted with black, and some of the white chiffon flouncings are edged with black lace. In millinery the strongest contrasts in color prevail; deep dark blue is often trimmed with rich mauve, and dark blue, sky blue and rose pink are all to be seen in one hat.

Some beautifully painted mother of pearl and ivory buttons came to us from Germany, and both Malta and Norway are contributing a rich store of Maltese buttons. Many of the winter dresses are likely to have single-breasted waistcoats, and for these the page boy's close-set bullet buttons are likely to be wanted. The crystal buttons have been the feature of this season. They are now being beautified by a pearl, an emerald, a ruby or their semblance inserted in the centre. Painted buttons to match the flowered muslins, find a place on the silk sash band at the side of the waist, and anything in the way of antique buttons would seem to be warmly appreciated and to find a use at once.

### WHERE EVERYONE IS TIPPED.

Queer Record of the Traits of Habitual British Tipsters.

Some of the wealthier men of our aristocracy have a fixed scale in the way of tips. The Rothschilds are well known for their generosity in this direction. I have my doubts as to any member of that respected family riding on an omnibus, but regularly in the autumn of the year nearly every 'bus driver and conductor is presented in the way of a 'tip' with a brace of pheasants by the esteemed head of the Rothschilds, Lord Roseberry's kindness in this direction is also well known. Every telegraph and message boy that finds his way on urgent business to Lord Roseberry's house

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(Please mention this Paper.)

BELFAST, IRELAND

is awarded two shillings, while last Christmas his lordship sent no less than thirty-three sovereigns to be distributed between the light-footed messengers of the local post office. A late regretted member of the family always fixed the honorarium for 'wire' bearers at sixpence. A very wealthy nobleman in the immediate vicinity of the latter gentleman, used to always present a piece of bread and cheese and a penny to any man, woman or child who found their way on business to his palatial home.

A widow who lives in the near vicinity of Park Lane, and whose late husband was a prosperous banker, always allows a threepenny bit and a card decorated with a light floral design, which weaves its way artistically around some type giving weighty and healthy advice to the doubtless grateful receiver. The late proprietor of one of our biggest daylies never allowed a boy to bring a message to his private room without awarding him half a crown. Hobbs, of Liberator fame, was famous for his tips and five shillings represents the lowest tip he ever gave, and now the young men of Croydon gratefully remember him for his generosity, and can never believe in their hearts that he was ever guilty of the frauds imputed to him. Some of the big firms in England are also noted for their 'tips'. Who has not heard of the small fee that is awarded to cabman who have the luck to take a fare to Maples, the great furniture dealers? It takes a form of a voucher for refreshments. The same firm 'tips' its customers with a light lunch. One gentleman went so far as to tell me the customer could demand it, but that is the danger that grows out of the tipping system. What is received in time without a 'Thank you,' is in the end demanded as a right. The great biscuit firm of Huntley & Palmer make it a rule never to send out or sell a broken or damaged biscuit, so at the end of the week they are all equally divided, put in bags and given to the employees as they leave on Saturday. They are prohibited from selling their share. Surely this is a most wholesome 'tip.' Most of the big brewers give to everybody that brings an order to their respective firms a voucher, representing a pint of stout or bitter ale. The distillers also allow a 'wee drappie' of Scotch or any other spirits they may manufacture.

Some of the great city companies 'tip' their guests for their trouble in sitting throughout their sumptuous feasts by presenting them with curious little presents. For instance, the Salters' Company always present every visitor at they banquet with a pair of miniature salt spoons; while the Blacksmiths find their friends quite a substantial basket of fancy fruit and confectionery.

In the poorer neighborhoods of London tipping the patrons' children is a recognized institution. The publican gives packets of sweets once a week to every little boy or girl who deals regularly at their palaces. Even the hairdressers are bitten with the devourer of their hard earned wages, giving to their stubble-chinned customers on Sundays a toy for the babies at home. This is severe at three halpence an easy shave. Most of our well-known actors are celebrated for this species of generosity. Sir Henry Irving heads the list, both in talent

and good nature. Most people know that the cabman that bears him to his theatre never gets less than a sovereign. And most of us know that the story of the cabby that was given a shilling by mistake for a long distance by our actor-knight and cabby's comment on the fact, that 'If he took the Jew as well inside as he did out,' he would spend the 'bob' to see him do it. A very fine example of Sir Henry Irving's generosity was provided by his action on the afternoon following the first night of 'Robespierre.' After a neat little speech thanking everyone, from the highest to the lowest, for their assistance in the big crowd scene, he presented every person from the flyman aloft to the smallest man below, with a guinea each. Surely a magnificent record in the gentle art of 'tipping.'

### He Saw Himself Again.

An Italian merchant, Cuzzi, was made a prisoner of the Mahdi and the Khalifa and kept in confinement for fifteen years, until the liberation of Omdurman by the Anglo-Egyptian troops. From a recently published account of his adventures, we extract a pathetic incident:

'During the fifteen years of my imprisonment I never saw a mirror, so that I gradually lost all interest in my personal appearance. When I knew for certain that an expedition was directed toward Omdurman I once more felt some interest in life. At last I heard the cannon roar, and the wild shouts of battle penetrated into the city. I snatched a sword and held myself in readiness, with the firm resolution to put an end to my life should this last hope vanish. When the noise of the cannon had at length subsided, and I beheld Kitchener before me, congratulating me on my liberty I thought I should die, so overwhelming was my emotion. I was curious and anxious to see the image of myself, but on beholding my own face next day, I stepped back horror stricken. When I had last seen myself in a looking glass I was young active and strong, while the image I now beheld was that of a man withered by disease and hardships. Never had my sufferings come to my mind with such painful reality. I wept like a child—the first tears I had shed during those fifteen years! The day before I was made a prisoner I saw my wife die, but my grief was too deep to allow the relief of tears. My child was torn from me, and died from ill treatment; still I was unable to weep. I had gone through many a trial and hardship without showing weakness, but there, in front of that little mirror, I broke down. Grief for all that I had lost seemed to be concentrated in that sorrowful image which the mirror reflected.'

### The Some More Girl.

'What man dare, I dare,' he quoted. 'Well, you haven't as yet,' she replied regretfully, for it was not her first season at the seashore, and she had known others who were more forward.—Chicago Post.

### A Reminder.

Tommy—Mamma, why have you got papa's hair in a locket?  
His mother.—To remind me that he once had some, Tommy.—Boston Traveler.

TO THE DEAF.—A rich lady, cured of deafness and noises the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, has sent £1,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Apply to The Institute, 780, Eight Avenue, New York.